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JCO: Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 MAR 2001

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Roger Sandstrom

Title: Thread Coupling For A Drill String
For Percussive Rock Drilling

U.S. National Phase of PCT/SE99/01652

Filed: September 22, 1999

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: PCT-US/EO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed please find Form PTO-1449 identifying four (4) references. Also enclosed are copies of four references.

The International Search Report issued in connection with the corresponding PCT international patent application cited U.S. Patent No. 3,933,210, Swedish Patent No. 460,550, and Norwegian Patent No. 74,549. Each of these references was cited in Category A indicating that the document defines the general state of the art, but is not considered to be of particular relevance.

The enclosed copy of U.S. Patent No. 4,861,209 corresponds to Swedish Patent No. 460,550. The enclosed copy of G.B. 632,556

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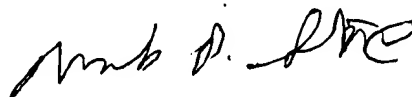
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corresponds to Norwegian Patent No. 74,549 (a copy of which is also enclosed).

Also enclosed is a copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report, issued in connection with the corresponding PCT application. The International Preliminary Examination Report concludes that the claim pending in the corresponding PCT application is patentable over the references identified in the International Search Report. The claim pending in the United States National Phase corresponds to the claim of the PCT international patent application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the prior art references enclosed herewith and identified in the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Examination Report be formally cited of record in connection with the United States National Phase as generally illustrating the background state of the art.

Respectfully submitted,



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